

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated April 21, 2008. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-27 are under consideration in this application. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 11-15, 19, 23, 25 and 27 are being amended, as set forth in the above marked-up presentation of the claim amendments, in order to more particularly define and distinctly claim Applicants' invention. All the amendments to the claims are supported by the specification, especially page 17, lines 8-13 and page 24, lines 25-30. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Formality Rejection

Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. As outlined above, the claims are being amended as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, the withdrawal of the outstanding informality rejection is in order, and is therefore respectfully solicited.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-27 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the outstanding 112 rejection. Since Claims 1-27 are being rewritten to overcome the outstanding 112 rejection, as outlined above, Applicants will submit that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

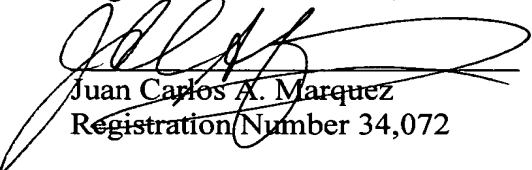
Conclusion

In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention and the prior art references upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely, Applicant respectfully contends that the prior art references cannot anticipate the present invention or render the present invention obvious. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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